

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kenji SASAKI et al.

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No. : 10/539,756

**Confirmation No: 5026**

(National Stage of PCT/JP2003/016362)

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

I.A. Filed : December 19, 2003

For : METHOD FOR PROTECTING THIOL GROUP OF PROTEIN

**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Responsive to the Notice to File Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. § 371 dated February 14, 2006, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. Inasmuch as the two-month shortened statutory period was originally set in the Office Action to expire on April 14, 2006, this amendment is being filed in a timely manner and no fee for extension is deemed necessary. However, if any extension of time is deemed to be necessary, the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby requested and authorization is hereby provided to charge any necessary fees to maintain the pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Entry of the following amendment and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Specification** are reflected on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.